are there ribs with but one, the capitular, head. In the posterior part of the series the two heads often gradually coalesce, so that there conies to be but one, the capitular, head. The "Whales also, at least the Whalebone Whales, are exceptional in possessing but one head to the ribs, which is the capitular. The first rib joins the sternum below, and a variable number after this have the same attachment. There are always a number of ribs, sometimes called floating ribs, which have no sternal attachment. In the Whalebone Whales

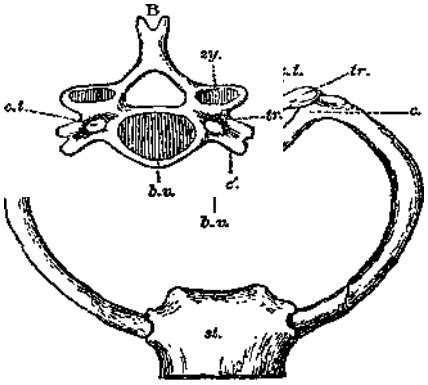

FIG. 17.—A, First thoracic skeletal segment for comparison with B, fifth cervical vertebra (Man), 6.v, Body of vertebra ; c, first thoracic rib ; e', cervical jib (which has become united with the transverse process,, *tr*| the two enclosing the cos to-transverse foramen *(f.c.t)* ; st_t sternum ; *s&y,* articular process of the arch (zygapophysis).
(From. Wiedersheim's *Struckwre, qf M&n»)*

it is the first rib alone which is so attached. As a rule, to which the Whales mentioned are again an exception, the rib is divided into at least two regions—the vertebral portion which is always ossified, and the sternal moiety which is usually cartilaginous. This is, however, often very short in the first rib. They are, however, ossified in the Armadillos and in some other animals. Between the vertebral and sternal portions an intermediate tract is separated off and ossified in the Monotremata.

The ribs of existing mammals belong only to the dorsal region of the vertebral column, but there are traces of lumbar ribs and also of cervical ribs. In the Monotremata,, indeed, these latter